

Claims

1. A method of transporting a customized user interface environment, based on an operating system which permits customization of user interface environments but which does not itself directly provide for machine-independent invocation of a customized environment, comprising the actions of, at various times:
 - a) operating a utility on a first computer to store customized program-specific settings;
 - b) operating a second utility on a second computer to reconfigure said second computer to use said settings; and thereafter
 - c) operating said second computer in accordance with said settings.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) stores said settings onto a portable data medium.
3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) also stores environmental settings.
4. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) stores registry entries.
5. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step b) retrieves said settings from a portable data medium for use.
6. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step b) checks for possible conflicts before reconfiguring said second computer.
7. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) stores said program-specific settings for only some of the programs on said first computer, as manually selected in an operation which does not involve manual installation of programs.

8. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the subsequent step of again reconfiguring said second computer, after said step c), to at least partially reverse said step b).
9. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the subsequent step of again reconfiguring said second computer, after said step c), to wholly reverse said step b).
10. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the subsequent step, after said step c), of automatically erasing all temporary files created on said second computer during said step b).
11. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of saving any configuration changes made during said steps b) or c), and synchronizing said configuration changes onto said first computer.
12. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) stores defined user variables.
13. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) stores link library files.
14. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) stores a record of any version conflicts of DLLs or system services.
15. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step a) also automatically captures at least some data files which are identifiably associated with programs for which settings are stored in said step a).
16. The method of Claim 1, wherein said step b) also automatically identifies program update needs.